

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 STR-04 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
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O R 261410Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3611
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, PFOR
SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COUNCIL, MARCH 25-26, 1977: EC REPRESENTATION
AT LONDON SUMMIT

1. THE EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT REACHED AGREEMENT
DURING THEIR ROME EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING ON THE
ISSUE OF EC REPRESENTATION AT THE MAY 7-8 LONDON
SUMMIT, BRINGING AN END TO WEEKS OF BITTER AND
DIVISIVE DEBATE. UNDER THE AGREED FORMULA, WHICH
WAS ISSUED AS A EUROPEAN COUNCIL DECLARATION, UK
PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN (THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT)
AND EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS "WILL BE INVITED
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TO TAKE PART IN THOSE SESSIONS OF THE SUMMIT AT
WHICH SUBJECTS OF COMMUNITY COMPETENCE WILL BE DISCUSSED.
THE DECLARATION SPECIFIES THAT EXAMPLES OF SUCH
TOPICS INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
AND THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.

2. THE AGREEMENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A LAST

MINUTE CONCESSION ON THE PART OF FRENCH PRISIDENT
GISCARD D'ESTAING, WHO INFORMED HIS COLLEAGUES
DURING THEIR MARCH 25 DINNER THAT, ALTHOUGH HE
REMAINED OPPOSED TO PARTICIPATION IN THE SUMMIT
BY THE COMMUNITH AS SUCH, HE WOULD NOT OBJECT TO
A "TECHNICAL EC PRESENCE" FOR DISCUSSION OF MATTERS
OF COMMUNITY COMPETENCE.

3. GISCARD D'ESTAING WENT TO SOME LENGTHS AT
HIS MARCH 26 PRESS CONFERENCE TO STRESS THAT THE
FRENCH POSITION OF PRINCIPLE REMAINS UNSULLIED AND
THAT JENKINS' PARTICIPATION IN LONDON WILL NOT
MEAN THAT THE EC AS SUCH IS TAKING PART IN THE SUMMIT,
WHICH, HE INSISTED, REMAINED A GATHERING OF HEADS OF
STATE AND GOVERNMENT. HE CHARACTERIZED THE AGREEMENT
AS AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION, WHICH RESPECTS BOTH THE
NATURE OF THE LONDON SUMMIT AND THE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE EC TREATIES. JENKINS, HIMSELF, TOLD THE PRESS
THAT THE AGREEMENT REPRESENTED A "SATISFACTORY
OUTCOME."

4. ALTHOUGH PROCEDURAL DETAILS REMAIN TO BE WORKED
OUT, CALLAGHAN SUGGESTED TO REPORTERS THAT JENKINS
WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THOSE PORTIONS OF THE
LONDON MEETING NOT DEALING WITH EC MATTERS.
CALLAGHAN SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THESE SUBJECTS
WOULD BE CONCENTRATED IN SPECIFIC SESSIONS SO THAT
THE "PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE ACCORDED
THE DIGNITY DUE HIM." GARDNER
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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